lying in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh after the despatch of iron-ore from the place of its extraction with the result that the source of drinking water is getting polluted;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to set up a plant at Bastar for its utilization; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Fines are generated during the mining of iron ore and are being stockpiled at suitable places near the mine site. To avoid pollution of drinking water sources, tailing dams have been constructed by NMDC. Further, as the market for fine ore, both domestic and international, has developed, the stockpiled iron ore fines at Bailadila are being reclaimed and utilised.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Mini Steel plant in Orissa

2633. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up some mini steel plants in Orissa;

(b) if so, the places identified for the location of the plants; and

(c) the number of them proposed to set up in private sector/joint sector and also by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Government do not propose set up mini steel plants in Orissa, the new Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991, has removed "Iron and Steel" from the list of industries reserved for the public sector and also exempted it from the requirements of compulsory licensing. No Government approval is therefore, required for the setting up of such plants in private Joint sector provided the location is not within 25 kms of a city having a population of more than 10 lakhs as per the 1991 ctnsus.

Iron ore mines in Orissa

2634. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some iron ore mines are sick in Orissa;

(b) if so, the district-wise details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken for the revival of mining activities in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As per report received from the State Govt, of Orissa, there are no sick Iron Ore Mines in the State.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Loan for SAIL

2635. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Japanese loan sharks bite into SAIL" appearing in the 'Business Standard' Calcutta dated 21st February, 1992;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the reasons for the Japanese banks laying down the unusual loan terms under which the Steel Authority of In da Limited (SAIL) arranged a loan of $ 100 million; and